

ISDH Injury Prevention Advisory Council – Meeting of December 7, 2006

Agenda:

Review of Minutes from June 22 meeting

ISDH Report - Charlene Graves and Susan Perkins

- Epidemiologist and PHESS pilot
- Office of Rural Health
- ISDH Trauma Task Force
- State Trauma Registry and NHTSA funding for same
- Fireworks Injury Report and Epidemiology Newsletter article
- TBI Advisory Council

Follow-Ups

- Infant Suffocation Death Group
- Risk Watch
- Partnership to Prevent Violent Injuries and Death
- State Alliance for Injury Prevention

Reports and Announcement from Attendees

Handouts

- Costs of Injuries – CDC Press Release of April 18, 2006
- Incidence and Economic Analysis of Injuries in the U.S. – Book, April 2006
- STIPDA State of the States Highlights Reports: 2005
- STIPDA State Injury and Violence Prevention Programs –Indiana & general info
- PHESS Data Powerpoint Slides
- 2006 Indiana Fireworks Injury Report and Epi Newsletter article

2007 Meetings – March 1 or 8 (need to decide), June 7, September 6, December 6

Minutes:

Present: Judy Ganser, Charlene Graves, Joanne Martin, Stephanie Mattes, Jim Mowry, Donna Myers, Susan Perkins

ISDH Report. The minutes from the June 22, 2006 meeting were approved as written. Charlene Graves and Susan Perkins reported that Jodi Hackworth is working as the Injury Prevention Program Epidemiologist (after returning from maternity leave) with her first project being as assessment of syndromic surveillance (PHESS) data on injuries and its possible utility related to a state trauma registry. The PHESS data system was developed for early detection of bioterrorism-related events but has applicability for natural events causing injuries (e.g., tornados). The data is emergency department chief complaint data (not as precise as diagnoses) and is seamlessly obtained from about 50 Indiana hospitals. Jodi presented the findings of her analysis related to injuries at the Trauma System Task Force meeting on November 17, 2006.

The funding from the HRSA Hospital Bioterrorism grant to support Susan Perkin's position of State Trauma System Manager will end on December 31. Negotiations with the ISDH Office of Rural Health for future funding of this position appear most promising.

The ISDH Trauma System Task Force held two meetings in November; one in Evansville in association with the Deaconess Hospital Trauma Conference and the other at ISDH in Indianapolis. Development of the State Trauma Registry is proceeding as desired. The Request for Proposals to trauma registry vendors has been issued and proposals are under review. Funding for the Registry has been obtained through NHTSA, via the Traffic Records Improvement initiative of the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute. This funding should be available through 2010 and allows for purchase of the vendor registry services as well as a state trauma registrar position.

The 2006 ISDH fireworks injury report is available on the ISDH website. The main difference from the data report of 2003-04 is that there appears to be an increase in severity of the injuries; however, it is too early to tell if this is a trend. The Injury Prevention Program will be issuing this report annually, but it will take 5 years of data before any trends can be determined. Concern was expressed that this report did not receive much media attention as compared to previous years. Suggestions were made for the timing of the press release to be improved and that "teasers" be provided before full results are released.

The Indiana Office of Vocational Rehabilitation Services received a 3-year federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Grant in April 2006 to improve services for patients with that type of injury. An Advisory Council has just been formed, with Dr. Graves as the ISDH representative.

Follow-Ups. The Infant Suffocation Death Group, led by Dr. Joe O'Neil, has met several times but is awaiting further detailed data work from MCH/FIMR in order to develop recommendations on this issue. It is of great concern that Indiana is the highest ranking state in the nation in injury-related child fatalities ages 1-4 years. The infant suffocation deaths are a major component of our high ranking.

Joanne Martin reported on the pilot of an intervention related to safe sleeping practices, which involves a video played for the parents while the newborn is still hospitalized, with reinforcement by nursing staff. Joanne's personal experience with the issue of sleep deprivation was recently emphasized with the birth of her new grandson. She recommends www.babycenter.com as a good source of safety information, which also includes chat room availability. She expressed concern that postpartum depression is largely unrecognized as a public health problem.

Stephanie Mattes reported that a new Safe Kids Chapter has been formed in the Evansville area, through collaboration with St. Mary's and Deaconess Hospitals, and is interested in information on safe sleep practices and ATV injuries, and she is seeking source of such information. She was provided with several contacts to be pursued on safe sleep practice information through the Indiana Perinatal Network. Stephanie noted that the Vanderburgh County coroner has been helpful in disseminating information on safe sleep practices.

No updates on Risk Watch or the Partnership to Prevent Violent Injuries and Death were provided as representatives of those programs were unable to attend this meeting. Donna Myers noted that Dr. James Nocon will be presenting at a symposium on the topic of medications given during labor as a contributing factor to postpartum depression. Judy Ganser noted the need for coordination of information related to media campaigns on specific topics. MCH is planning a Healthy Babies Campaign.

Reports and Announcements.

The Indiana Suicide Prevention Coalition held a strategic planning meeting recently, attended by Charlene. The Coalition has also completed a needs assessment of youth suicide services. The growth of regional Coalition groups has been most impressive. Much valuable information on the Coalition and its activities (including the Indiana suicide prevention plan) can be obtained from its website:
www.indianasuicidepreventioncoalition.org.

The Early Childhood Comprehensive Care System (ECCS, also known as “Sunny Start”) is focused on coordination of services for children from birth through 5 years of age, with information for parents and family supports available on its website:
www.earlychildhoodmeetingplace.com.

The IU School of Nursing received a grant from CDC for a program that includes computerized reminders to parents (E-Parenting). This is a randomized clinical trial, with the first year being a pilot project. The program involves eight 20-minute sessions to augment the Healthy Families home visits, with the focus being on the topics of substance abuse, domestic violence, and postpartum depression, to prevent child abuse and neglect. Two sites in Indiana and one in Michigan are participating. The School is also working with Oklahoma to improve home safety checklists. The Nemours Foundation was mentioned as a source of home safety checklists, and may have a room-by-room safety checklist. Other sources of similar information are likely to be available.

Barbara Cole has returned to the Indiana Poison Center as the health educator (hooray!). The Center has a Clarian values grant for outreach to the Hispanic population. However, the funding situation for the Center is somewhat tenuous – both federal and state funding are becoming more limited so dedicated state funding is being sought through the state legislature. Telephone calls to the Center increased 3% last year, which is an increase similar to the previous year.

Further questions on the reliability of different sources of information available through the Internet resulted in a brief discussion of helpful hints, such as find out who is sponsoring the website. Stephanie Mattes described several injury prevention programs provided through St. Mary’s Hospital. These include the Drive Right Program (for teens and parents) and a car seat check before newborns leave the hospital. She is aware of a grant from the AMA related to Senior driving and offered to present this information at the next Council meeting. **Note: the next meeting, planned for March 8, has been rescheduled for March 15 at 10:30 AM at ISDH.**